

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties number: CH-378

Name: CH-0016/Rock Point Rd over Wetchley Crong

The bridge referenced herein was inventoried by the Maryland State Highway Administration as part of the Historic Bridge Inventory, and SHA provided the Trust with eligibility determinations in February 2001. The Trust accepted the Historic Bridge Inventory on April 3, 2001. The bridge received the following determination of eligibility.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST	
Eligibility Recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X	Eligibility Not Recommended _____
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None	
Comments: _____	
_____	
_____	
Reviewer, OPS: <u>Anne E. Bruder</u>	Date: <u>3 April 2001</u>
Reviewer, NR Program: <u>Peter E. Kurtze</u>	Date: <u>3 April 2001</u>

*Ang*

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
HISTORIC BRIDGE INVENTORY  
MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MHT NO. CH-378

NAME AND SHA NO.: CH-0016

**LOCATION**

**Road Name and Number:** Rock Point Road over Ditchley Prong

**City/Town:** Wayside X vicinity

**County:** Charles

**Ownership:**    State X County    Municipal    Other

**Bridge projects over:**    Road    Railway X Water    Land

**Is bridge located within designated district?:**    yes X no

   NR listed district    NR determined eligible district

   locally designated    other

Name of District   

**BRIDGE TYPE**

   Timber Bridge

   Beam Bridge    Truss-Covered    Trestle    Timber-and-Concrete

   Stone Arch Bridge

   Metal Truss Bridge

   Moveable Bridge

   Swing    Bascule Single Leaf    Bascule Multiple Leaf

   Vertical Lift    Retractable    Pontoon

   Metal Girder

   Rolled Girder    Rolled Girder Concrete Encased

   Plate Girder    Plate Girder Concrete Encased

   Metal Suspension

   Metal Arch

   Metal Cantilever

X Concrete

   Concrete Arch    Concrete Slab X Concrete Beam    Rigid Frame

   Other Type Name

## DESCRIPTION

### **Describe the Setting:**

Situated in Maryland's Tidewater physiographic zone, Bridge CH-0016 carries Rock Point Road over Ditchley Prong near the village of Wayside in southeastern Charles County. Primarily rural in character with scattered dwellings and commercial establishments, Rock Point Road extends in a north-south direction while Ditchley Prong flows primarily in an easterly heading. A wooden worm fence borders the southeast approach to the bridge.

### **Describe the Superstructure and Substructure: (Discuss points identified in Context Addendum, Section C)**

Composed of a single, concrete-beam span measuring 20-feet clear span, Bridge CH-0016 supports a 21½ foot clear roadway consisting of earth fill with a macadam wearing surface atop a concrete deck. The bridge is 23 feet long. Concrete parapets enframe the roadbed while concrete abutments and wing walls support the span.

Recent inspections of the bridge's condition have noted several spots of spall and scale on the underside of the slab. Some of the spalled areas exhibit exposed reinforcing bars. Bridge girders display a few minor spalls with portions of the reinforcing stirrups exposed. The concrete parapets feature light to medium scale and hairline cracks. The abutments possess light scale and some vertical and horizontal cracking.

A survey of historic concrete beam bridges undertaken by the Maryland State Highway Administration in the Fall of 1995 identified 113 bridges of that type located throughout the state. Slightly more than two-thirds (76) of that total were single-span bridges.

### **Discuss major alterations:**

Inspection reports do not indicate that any major alterations have been undertaken.

## HISTORY

**When Built:** 1920

**Why Built:** Unknown

**Who Built:** State Roads Commission

**Who Designed:** Unknown

**Why Altered:** Not applicable

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
HISTORIC BRIDGE INVENTORY  
MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST**

**MHT NO. CH-378**

**Was this bridge built as part of an organized bridge building campaign?:** An examination of county records did not identify any relationship between construction of Bridge CH-0016 and organized building programs.

**SURVEYOR ANALYSIS**

**This bridge may have NR significance for association with:**

☐ A (Events)   ☐ B (Person)   ☐ C (Engineering/Architectural Character)

**Was this bridge constructed in response to significant events in Maryland or local history?**

Research has not revealed any associations between the bridge and significant events contributing to Maryland and/or local history.

**When the bridge was built, and/or given a major alteration, did it have a significant impact on the growth and development of the area?**

Construction of Bridge CH-0016 does not appear to have had any significant impact on local development or growth.

**Is the bridge located in an area which may be eligible for historic designation, and would the bridge add or detract from the historic and visual character of the possible district?**

No, Bridge CH-0016 is not located in an area potentially eligible for historic designation.

**Is the bridge a significant example of its type?**

No, Bridge CH-0016 is not a significant example of its type.

**Does the bridge retain integrity of the important elements described in the Context Addendum?**

Bridge CH-0016 appears to retain fair integrity of its character defining elements.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
HISTORIC BRIDGE INVENTORY  
MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MHT NO. CH-378

**Is the bridge a significant example of the work of the manufacturer, designer, and/or engineer, and why?**

County records do not identify the original construction authority, and therefore evaluating the bridge as a significant example of its manufacturer is problematic.

**Should this bridge be given further study before significance analysis is made, and why?**

Yes. Further study may identify the original construction body.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Charles County Department of Public Facilities  
Bridge Inspection Reports. On file at 1001 Radio Station Road, LaPlata, MD.

Spero, P.A.C., & Company, and Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.  
1994 *Historic Bridges in Maryland: Historic Context Report*. Maryland State Highway Administration, Baltimore.

State Roads Commission of Maryland  
1958 *A History of Road Building in Maryland*. Baltimore.

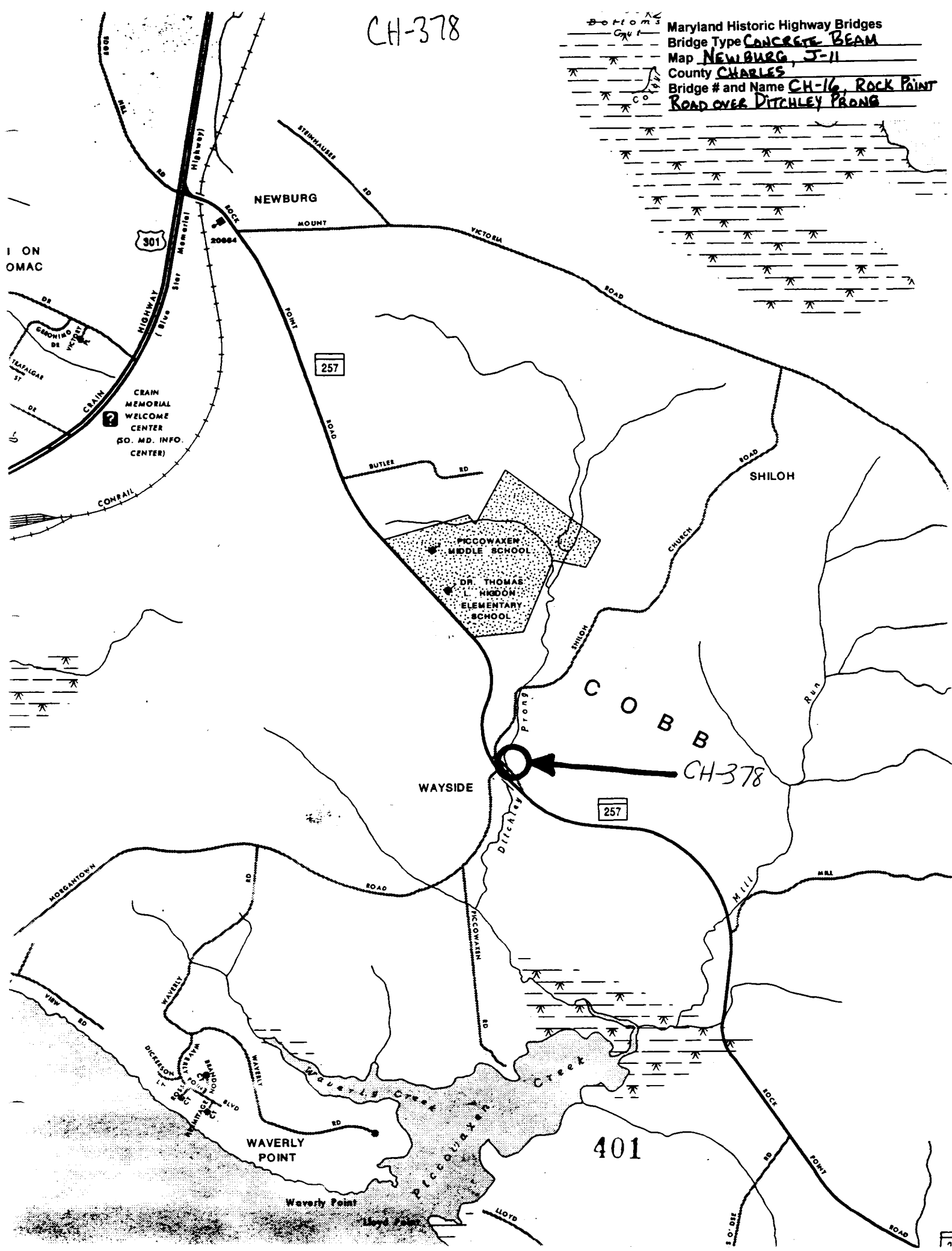
**SURVEYOR INFORMATION**

Name: Stuart Paul Dixon  
Organization: KCI Technologies, Inc.  
Address: 5001 Louise Dr., Suite 201  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Date: 13 May 1996  
Telephone: (717) 691-1340

CH-378

Maryland Historic Highway Bridges  
Bridge Type CONCRETE BEAM  
Map NEWBURG, J-11  
County CHARLES  
Bridge # and Name CH-16, ROCK POINT ROAD OVER DITCHLEY PRONG





CH-378

1 OF 4

BRIDGE # CH 16  
CHARLES COUNTY

D. BHAUMIK  
2-2-95

MARYLAND ~~SHPO~~ ~~STHA~~

ROCK POINT ROAD OVER DITCHLEY  
PRONG  
LOOKING SOUTH ON ROCK POINT ROAD





CH-378

2 OF 4

BRIDGE # CH 16  
CHARLES COUNTY

D. BAUMIK

2-2-95

~~MARYLAND SHPO SHA~~

ROCK POINT ROAD OVER DITCHLEY PRONG  
LOOKING EAST (DOWN STREAM FACE)



CH. 378

BRIDGE # CH 16  
CHARLES COUNTY

D. BHAUMIK

2-2-95

~~MARYLAND SHPO SHA~~ROCK POINT ROAD OVER DITCHLEY  
PRONG

LOOKING NORTH ON ROCK POINT ROAD



CH-378

BRIDGE # CH 16

CHARLES COUNTY

D. BHAUMIK

2-2-95

~~MARYLAND SHPO SHA~~

ROCK POINT ROAD OVER DITCHLEY

LOOKING WEST (UPSTREAM PRONG  
FACE)